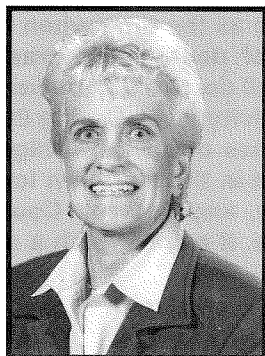


Hammerstrom's

for the people
in the 17th Senate District

Hotline



State Senator

Bev Hammerstrom

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1-888-477-8238

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hammerstrom/>

October 20, 2003



MICHIGAN SENATE DONATES TO FIGHT BREAST CANCER Each year, I invite my Senate colleagues, staff, and other Senate department staff members to help in the fight against breast cancer by participating in Lee National Denim Day. The event, held on October 9th, raises money for research, education, screening, and treatment programs and is the world's largest single-day fund-raiser for breast cancer awareness. In exchange for a minimum \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, participants were given a pink ribbon to wear. Individuals were also encouraged to wear denim or pink-colored clothing to work. This year, our efforts helped raise more than \$1,000, with 100% going to the Komen Foundation. For more information about the Susan G. Komen Foundation, or Lee National Denim Day, please click on the pink ribbon icon on my website at www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/hammerstrom.

MORE PEOPLE USING WEBSITE TO "TRAVEL" MICHIGAN The state's tourism promotion program, Travel Michigan, and its website, www.michigan.org, have helped bring record numbers of visitors to the travel section of the

Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) website and other state travel industry sites. Through the end of September, www.michigan.org recorded 3.2 million user sessions, up 87% over the same period last year. This year is the first year that Travel Michigan tracked the number of users that accessed industry websites via www.michigan.org. The total number of "click-throughs" is more than 2 million and during the peak summer months, the website was generating approximately 14,000 "click-throughs" per day.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY – OCTOBER 25th People across the country will work together to make the world a better place when they choose to participate in Make a Difference Day. Throughout the state, many will mark the "national day of doing good" by performing good deeds for the elderly, making donations to homeless and domestic violence shelters, and volunteering their time to nonprofit agencies such as Habitat for Humanity. If you would like to help celebrate the spirit of volunteerism, please call, toll-free, 1-800-VOLUNTEER or visit www.makeadifferencetoday.com.

FALL BRINGS INCREASE IN DEER-VEHICLE CRASHES Michigan's fall season is well known as the time when tree leaves begin to change colors, temperatures decrease, and, unfortunately, incidents of deer-vehicle crashes increase. More than 16 percent of all vehicle crashes in Michigan involve deer. Nearly half of all deer-vehicle collisions occur during the mating season, October through December, when deer increase their activity level. During 2002, there were more than 63,000 such collisions. Although many people believe most crashes occur in Michigan's northern region, nine of the top ten counties for deer-vehicle crashes are actually located in the southern lower portion of the state. Last year, crashes occurred most in Kent County, Calhoun County, and Jackson County. Motorists should be aware of deer whenever they are behind the wheel of an automobile. If a crash with a deer is unavoidable, motorists are encouraged to follow these recommendations:

- Avoid swerving
- Brake firmly
- Hold onto the steering wheel with both hands
- After the collision, steer the vehicle off the roadway and wait for police

DID YOU KNOW? According to the Michigan Deer Crash Coalition (MDCC), a deer-vehicle crash occurs every eight minutes in Michigan and, last year, deer-vehicle crashes resulted in five deaths and over 2,000 injuries.